

COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS: THE PHILIPPINE EXPERIENCE

by

Atty. Ernesto D. Adobo, Jr.

Undersecretary for Staff Bureau, Department of Environment and Natural Resources

**1st Asia Parks Congress
Sendai International Center
Sendai City, Miyagi Prefecture, Japan
13-17 November 2013**

OUTLINE OF THE PRESENTATION

- ✓ **Global significance of philippine biodiversity**
- ✓ **Introduction on Philippine biodiversity**
- ✓ **Evolution of Philippine conservation practices**
- ✓ **Threats to biodiversity**
- ✓ **National Integrated Protected Area System (NIPAS)**
- ✓ **Mechanisms for collaboration**
- ✓ **Key Recommendations**



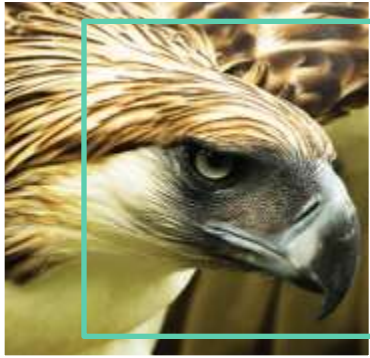
PHILIPPINES:

A MEGA-BIODIVERSITY COUNTRY



GLOBAL SIGNIFICANCE OF PHILIPPINE BIODIVERSITY

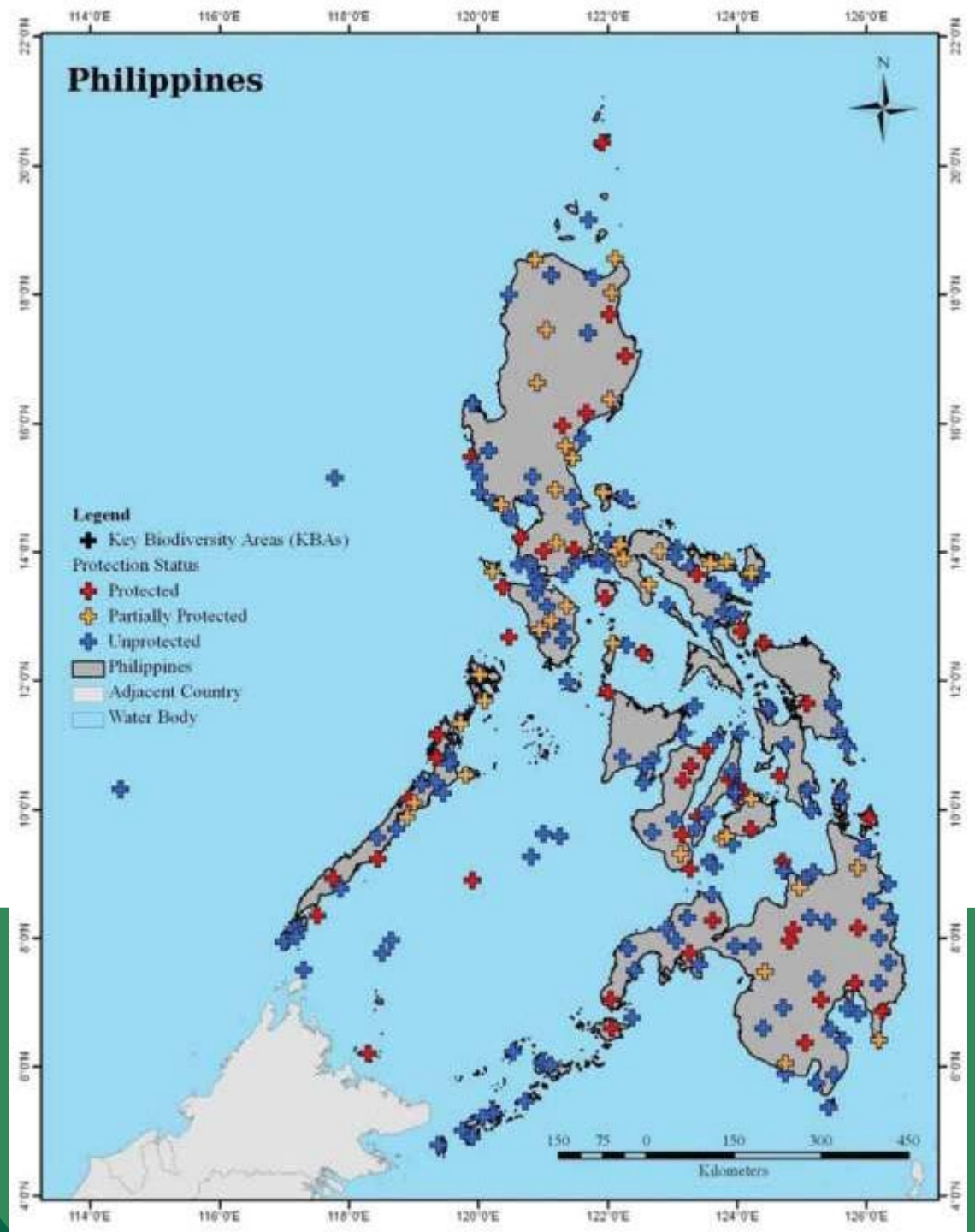
- **HARBORS MORE DIVERSE LIFE FORMS THAN ANY OTHER COUNTRY ON EARTH**
- **HAS MORE THAN 52, 000 DESCRIBED SPECIES OF WHICH MORE THAN ONE HALF ARE FOUND NOWHERE ELSE ON EARTH;**
- **MORE THAN 1,000 TERRESTRIAL WILDLIFE SPECIES HAVE BEEN RECORDED; HALF OF THESE ARE ENDEMIC;**
- **ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CENTERS OF AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA;**
- **HOME TO AN ASTOUNDING 576 SPECIES OF BIRDS, OF WHICH 195 ARE ENDEMIC, MAKING THE PHILIPPINES THE 4TH LEADING COUNTRY IN THE WORLD IN BIRD ENDEMISM;**
- **WITH 174 INDIGENOUS MAMMALIAN SPECIES, 111 OF WHICH ARE ENDEMIC**
- **RATE OF DISCOVERY OF NEW SPECIES IN THE COUNTRY IS ONE OF THE HIGHEST IN THE WORLD**

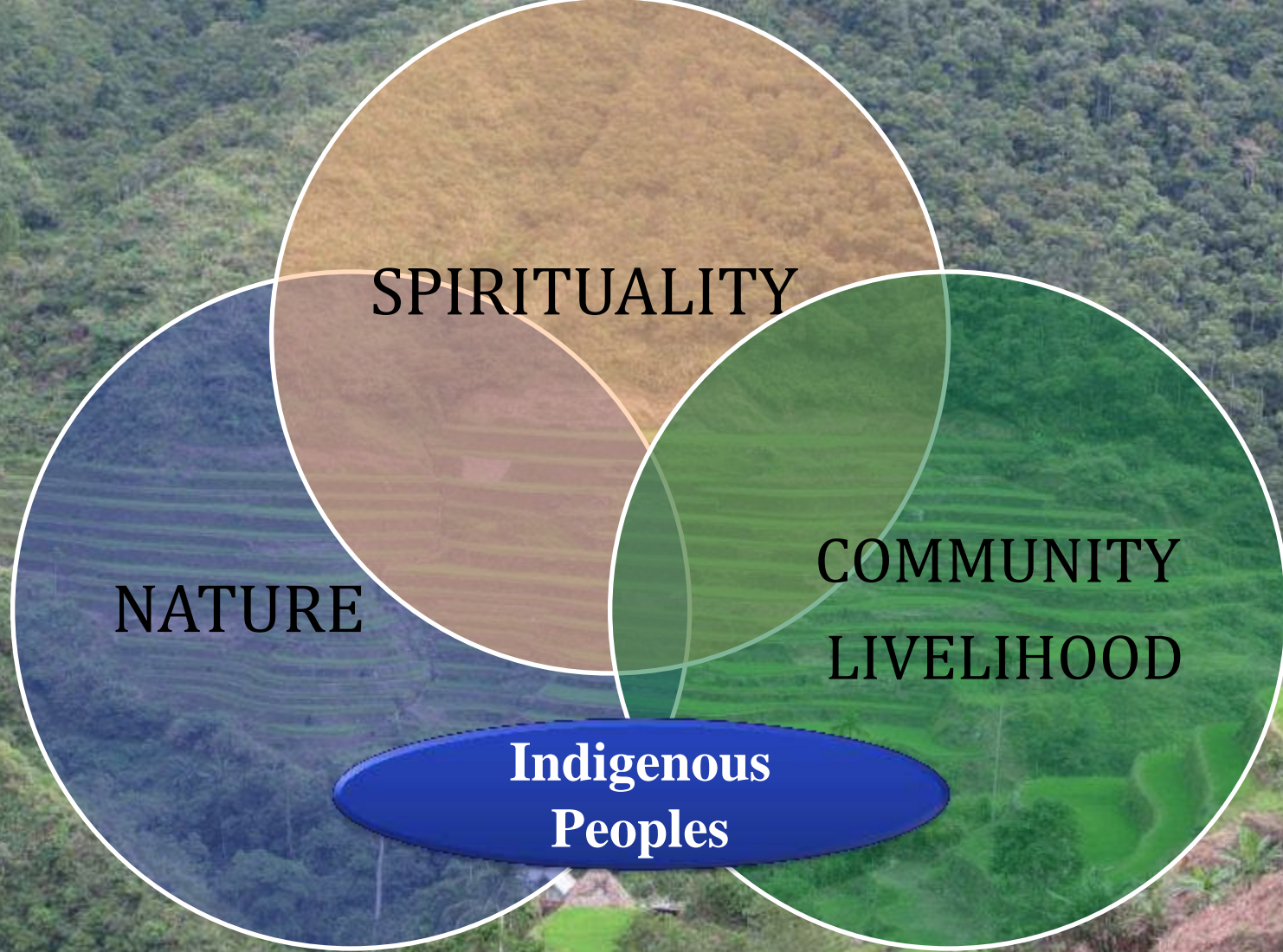




MAP SHOWING THE LOCATION OF KEY BIODIVERSITY AREAS FOUND IN THE ENTIRE PHILIPPINES

RED- protected
YELLOW- partially protected
BLUE-unprotected





**PRE-COLONIAL PHILIPPINES
to Present**



Conservation Areas
Off-limits to People

Private
Concessions in
Productive Areas

**CENTRALIZED
STATE-LED
MANAGEMENT**

SPANISH & AMERICAN PERIOD



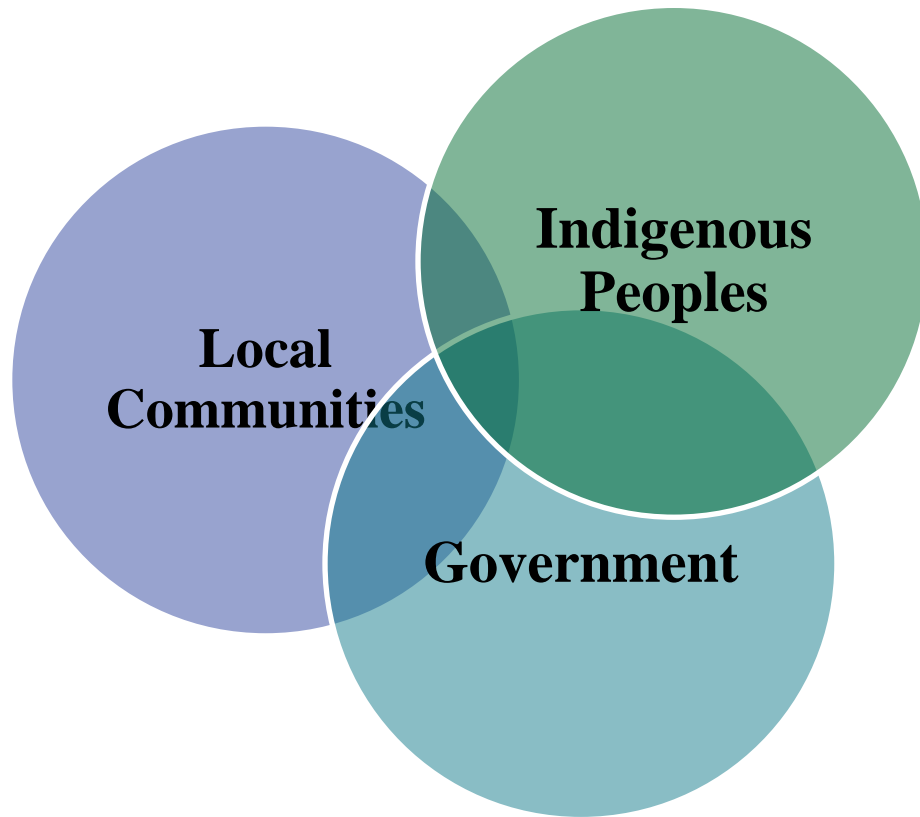


Natural resources were quickly being exhausted, even in areas designated for conservation.

Communities have an important role in the utilization and management of conservation areas.

1970s

SHARED MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES



PEOPLE-ORIENTED CONSERVATION POLICIES

1980s – 1990s

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES RIGHTS



COMMUNITY- BASED APPROACH TO CONSERVATION



THREATS TO BIODIVERSITY

- 1. ILLEGAL LOGGING**
 - 2. LAND CONVERSION**
 - 3. OVERHARVESTING OF RESOURCES
FOR TRADE AND DOMESTIC USE**
 - 4. INDISCRIMINATE MINING
OPERATIONS**
 - 5. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT**
- 

NIPAS

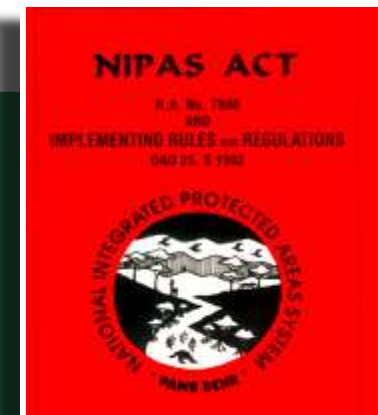
NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM

Standardized system of establishing and managing priority areas for conservation

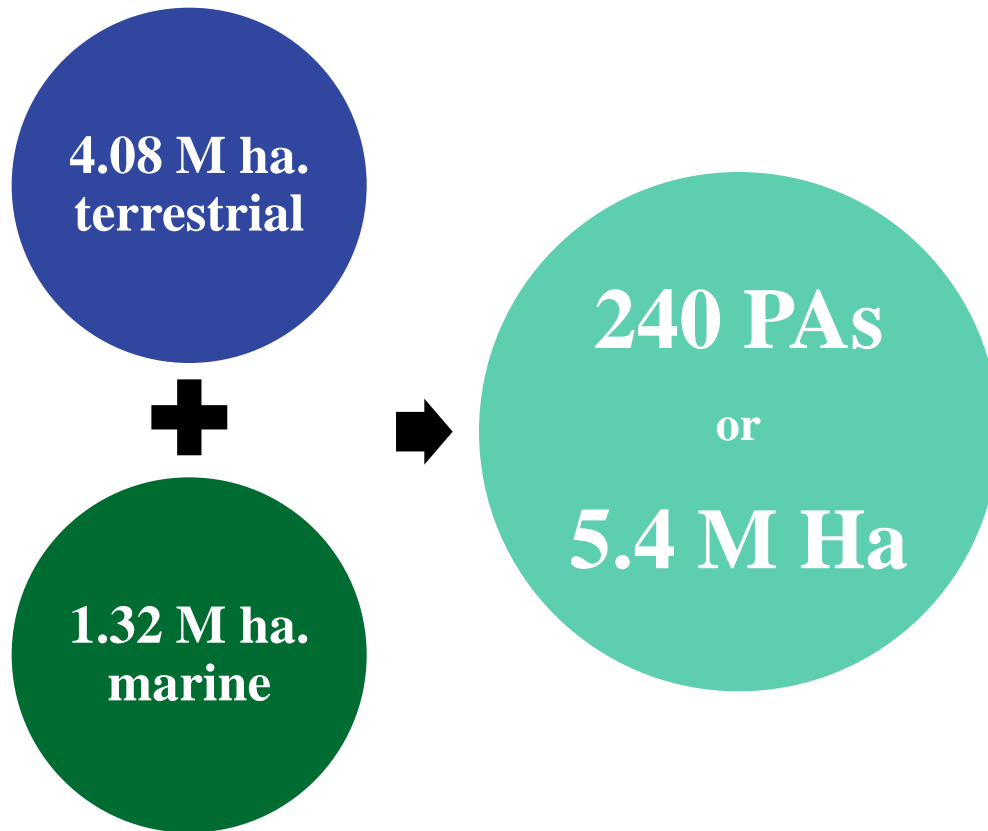
Recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples living in protected areas

Community-focused and participatory protected areas management

**1992 – Rio Earth Summit;
Philippines passed NIPAS Act**



NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM



NIPAS Today

NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM



IMPROVEMENT
OF LIVES OF
THE N.R.
DEPENDENT
POOR

CONSERVATION
OF NATURAL
RESOURCES



NIPAS Today

MECHANISMS FOR COLLABORATION

◆ **PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT BOARD** – a site-level policy and program implementing body of the protected area;

- representatives from local government units
- civil society organizations
- other government agencies and academic institutions
- and local and indigenous communities having stake in a particular protected area.



MT. MANTALINGAHAN PROTECTED LANDSCAPE



Armed Forces of the Philippines, the Philippine Coast Guard, and Municipality of Cagayancillo, Naval Forces West (NAVFORWEST), Western Command (WESCOM)- provide the manpower for the conduct of law enforcement in the park.



TUBBATAHA REEFS NATURAL PARK



TAAL VOLCANO PROTECTED LANDSCAPE



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Link protected areas to the wider landscape

2. Build broader stakeholder support for PAs & management objectives

3 .Work together with common goals but different roles

4. Build capacity for PAs management



LINK PROTECTED AREAS TO THE WIDER LANDSCAPE

IPs

Local
Communities

Entrepreneurs
& Consumers

Government

- ✓ Aligned interests
- ✓ Linked PAs and livelihood landscapes
- ✓ Equitable allocation of access to land and natural resources

= Less competition over resources

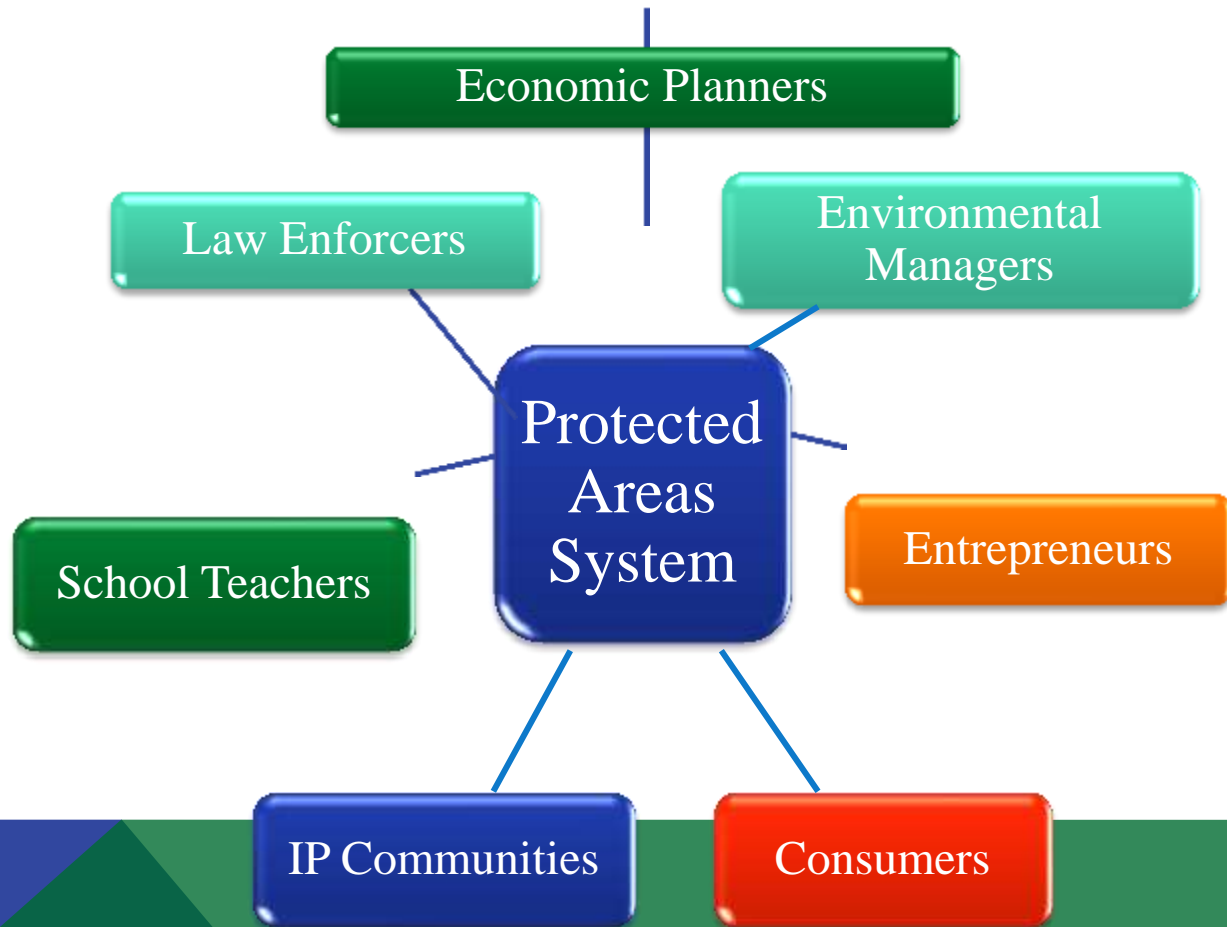


BUILD BROADER STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT FOR PAS & MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

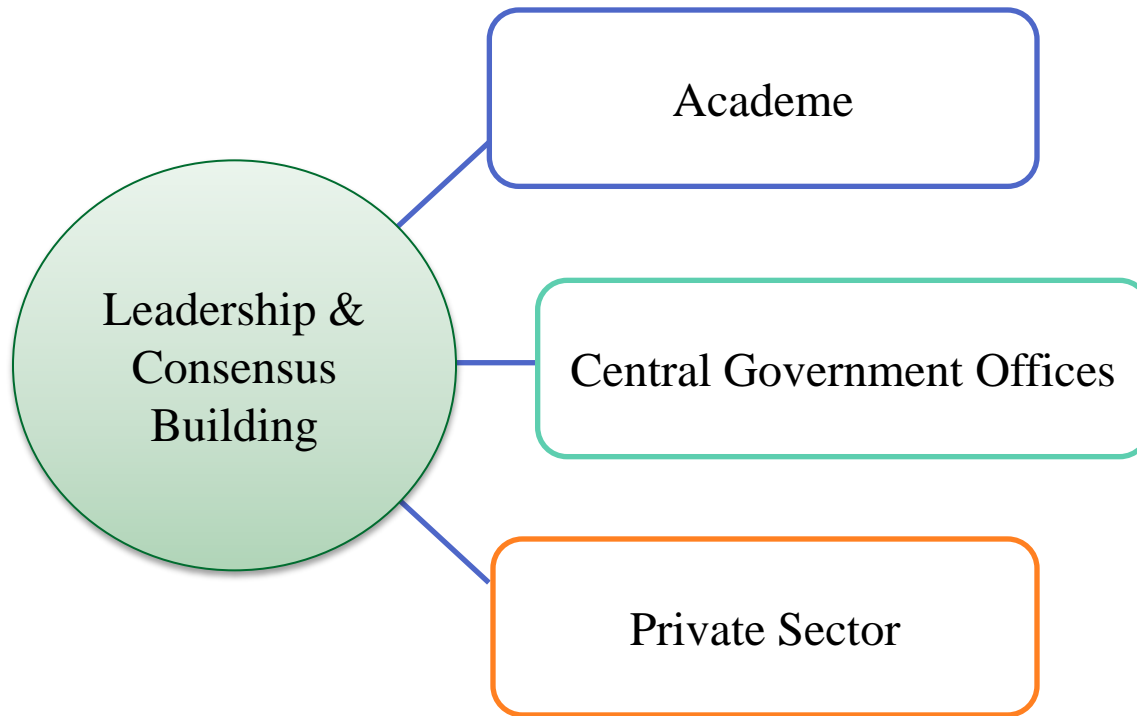


- ✓ Inform stakeholders about resources and their values so that they can make informed decisions
- ✓ Governance transparency and accountability

WORK TOGETHER WITH COMMON GOALS BUT DIFFERENT ROLES



BUILD CAPACITY FOR P.A. MANAGEMENT



- ✓ Institutional Capacity
 - ✓ Skills Training
 - ✓ Occupational Standards
- ✓ Financial Capacity

THANK YOU . . .

